

On their death, an image was carved delineating their idealized features.

We learn through written records, not portraits, of Richard III's crookback and Henry VIII's terminal corpulence. In art, Elizabeth I is always the same iconic virgin queen; in life, she banish mirrors from her palaces as her hair thinned and her cheeks hollowed. In the same spirit, Elizabeth II, who has turned 70, has firmly resisted suggestions that she permit an updating on coins of her youthful profile, as Queen Victoria did after her Jubilee in 1887.

By contrast, the Puritan regicide Oliver Cromwell is said to have told the artist Lely: "Flatter me not at all. But remark all these roughnesses, pimples, warts, and everything as you see me. Otherwise I will not pay a farthing for it." Yet this splendid story was printed long after Cromwell's death and may be apocryphal, according to his biographer, Antonia Fraser. More characteristic was Winston Churchill's response to an unflattering portrait by Graham Sutherland: he hid it away, Dorian Gray fashion. Some years later his widow, Clementine, apparently burned it.

Presidential portraits in the White House are a study in illusionist brushwork. Richard Nixon resembles a scoutmaster, Lyndon Johnson everybody's kindly uncle, and John Kennedy a saintly matinee idol. Interestingly, a dark and gloomy portrait of Lincoln is tucked from sight in the Lincoln bedroom. It was painted in 1930 by Douglas Volk, whose father, Leonard, once sculpted Lincoln from life. The son's haunting portrait, or a copy of it, turns up in Oliver Stone's film about Nixon, who at one point talks to the painting.

Official art, in real life, rarely speaks truth to power. It would indeed be refreshing, even liberating, for the memorial to show F.D.R. as he was. According to Mr. Deland, who uses a wheelchair himself, only two photographs are known to survive showing Roosevelt in the same device. This is the result of an unwritten protective rule among White House photographers. Like the kings of old, and most sitting politicians today, F.D.R. wanted his incorporeal self to linger in posterity's memory.

ANNE ROOSEVELT,
April 29, 1996.

DEAR MESSRS. DELAND AND REICH, Franklin Delano Roosevelt looms large in the hearts and minds of many, including his grandchildren who now survive. Some of us knew him personally, but most of us did not. We hold him in memory, as families will, as a whole person whose life touched a nation and whose affection still reaches us. We want him to be remembered as he was, in all his strength, courage and humanity.

It is quite clear that FDR developed his strength of character, determination and discipline most distinctly as a result of his having polio. He also became a more sympathetic and modest person. He made a political decision to downplay his disability because of his understanding of the role of public perception and the norms of the day. At times he did not.

But when it came to inspiring and encouraging others who were disabled—such as at his beloved Warm Springs, Georgia, or with amputees and wounded soldiers in wartime hospitals—he freely showed himself in wheelchairs or on crutches, with braces. He was in no way embarrassed by his disability. Life was bigger than that.

Were he alive today we are convinced that he would wish to have the people of this country and the world understand his disability. He would be comfortable, possibly eager, in light of current increased understanding of disability issues, to share awareness of his and other types of disabilities and

others. We firmly believe that more factual knowledge, particularly about and from public leaders, encourages and inspires those without disability to accept and support all people, including people with disabilities to live full, productive and joyful lives.

FDR's commitment to leadership, to excellence and to life, with a disability not well understood by many, nor accepted by some, sustained him and the Nation through one of the most challenging periods in American history. There is no better memorial than a complete picture of who he was.

While we wish no delay in the construction of the proposed memorial we urge an adequate inclusion of all facets of the man as he was, not as some think he ought to have been.

Sincerely,

Anne Roosevelt, on behalf of Chandler Roosevelt Lindsley, Christopher D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt Seagraves, Franklin Roosevelt III, Kate Roosevelt Whitney, Nina Roosevelt Gibson, James Roosevelt, Esquire.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, 4 years ago when I commenced these daily reports to the Senate it was my purpose to make a matter of daily record the exact Federal debt as of the close of business the previous day.

In that first report (February 27, 1992) the Federal debt as of the close of business the previous day stood at \$3,825,891,293,066.80, as of the close of business. The point is, the Federal debt has since shot further into the stratosphere.

As of yesterday at the close of business, a total of \$1,289,803,057,697.20 has been added to the Federal debt since February 26, 1992, meaning that as of the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, May 15, 1996, the exact Federal debt stood at \$5,115,694,350,764.00. (On a per capita basis, every man, woman and child in America owes \$19,315.06 as his or her share of the Federal debt.)

HONORING THE RICHARDSONS CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, families are the cornerstone of America. It is both instructive and important to honor those who have taken the commitment of "til death us do part" seriously, demonstrating successfully the timeless principles of love, honor, and fidelity. These characteristics make our country strong.

I rise today to honor Mr. Kenneth and Mrs. Barbara Richardson who on June 9, 1996, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. My wife, Janet, and I look forward to the day we can celebrate a similar milestone. The Richardsons' commitment to the principles and values of their marriage deserves to be saluted and recognized. I wish them and their family all the best as they celebrate this substantial marker on their journey together.

NATIONAL NURSING HOME WEEK

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, during National Nursing Home Week, May 12-18, we celebrate the more than 100,000 people in Massachusetts who live and work in our State's 590 nursing facilities.

Nursing facilities have become an integral part of our health care delivery system, providing rehabilitative care for individuals who expect to return home as well as long-term care for the chronically ill. Currently, about a quarter of all Massachusetts residents 85 years of age and older need nursing facility care. Approximately half of these individuals suffer from Alzheimer's disease. In addition, nursing facilities also care for many younger people, including severely disabled children, individuals who have suffered traumatic head injuries, and those who depend on ventilators to live.

Nursing facilities also make an important contribution to the Massachusetts economy by providing jobs for more than 55,000 people and adding more than \$2 billion to the local economy through wages and the purchase of goods and services.

As our population ages and nursing facilities assume an even more important role, it is critical that we maintain the quality of care provided by these facilities. Recent proposals to dramatically reduce Federal Medicare and Medicaid spending would have a devastating impact on elderly and disabled people in nursing facilities, 80 percent of whom rely on these two programs to pay for their care. In addition, we must maintain the protections contained in the 1987 nursing home reform law, which have helped nursing facilities to improve the quality of services they provide to the Nation's 1.5 million nursing facility residents.

National Nursing Home Week should mark a renewal of our commitment not only to the 55,000 elders and disabled people who live in our State's nursing facilities, but also to the 55,000 nursing facility employees who have dedicated their lives to caring for our most vulnerable citizens. In honor of this week, I salute all these employees whose contributions are so important to the well-being of so many in Massachusetts.

REQUEST FOR REFERRAL OF S. 1718

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, pursuant to section 3(b) of S. Res. 400, I ask that bill S. 1718, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997, be referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs so that the committee can consider, among other things, provisions of the bill relating to the establishment of the Intelligence Community Senior Executive Service and the establishment of a Commission to Assess the Organization of the Federal Government to Combat the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. These specific provisions pertain to